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NEWS.

DR. ROLAND THAXTER has been promoted to a professorship of cryptogamic botany at Harvard University.—*Science*.

WE REGRET to announce the death of the young English phycologist William West, who died in India, from cholera, at the age of twenty-six years.

AN EXCELLENT biographical sketch and portrait of the late Dr. Charles Mohr appear in the September number of *Plant World*. It is written by Professor S. M. Tracy.

DR. A. F. W. SCHIMPER, professor of botany in the University of Basle, and widely known for his monumental *Pflanzengeographie*, died on September 9, in his forty-sixth year.

IN THE OCTOBER number of the *Journal of Applied Microscopy* there is an interesting illustrated account of the botanical laboratory and gardens of the Tokyo Imperial University, by Kiichi Miyake.

A BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH of Professor T. C. Porter, with an excellent artotype portrait, was published in the July number of the *Bulletin of the Torrey Botanical Club*, having been prepared by Dr. N. L. Britton.

MISS S. M. HALLOWELL, professor of botany at Wellesley College, has been given leave of absence for the year, and the work of the department will be under Miss Clara E. Cummings, assistant professor of botany.—*Science*.

WE HAVE LEARNED that the herbarium of Theodor von Heldreich, professor of botany and director of the Botanic Gardens, Athens, is for sale. It contains approximately 20,000 species, and richly represents the floras of Greece, Asia Minor, and Egypt. It contains also hundreds of types and authentic specimens of new species described by Heldreich in the works of Boissier.

PROFESSOR ALEX. P. ANDERSON, formerly in charge of plant physiology in the University of Minnesota, has been appointed Curator of the herbarium of Columbia University, to fill the position made vacant by the appointment of Dr. Howe to the Garden staff. Professor FRANK S. EARLE, formerly of the Alabama Polytechnic Institute, has been appointed assistant curator in charge of the collection of fungi at the New York Botanical Garden.

AN ACCOUNT of the opening of the new botanical department at Glasgow University appears in the *Annals of Botany* for September last. It was a part of the celebrations on the ninth jubilee of the university, and the open-

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ing address was made on June 13, by Sir Joseph Hooker, whose father had been for twenty years the professor of botany at Glasgow. He was followed by Lord Lister and Professor Bayley Balfour in proposing a vote of thanks for the address.

AT THE DENVER meeting of the Botanical Society of America a committee, consisting of Drs. Trelease, Britton, and Robinson, was appointed to investigate and report upon the condition of the National Herbarium. The following resolution was passed: "That it is the present policy of the society to accumulate invested funds until the annual income, interest and dues, is at least \$500, and then to use such income yearly, or at greater or less intervals, as circumstances may dictate, for the best advancement of botanical knowledge."

THE SUBJECTS for the Walker prizes in Natural History for the next two years have been announced. For 1902 the botanical subject is "Nuclear fusions in plants," besides a general subject entitled "The reactions of organisms to solutions, considered from the standpoint of the chemical theory of dissociation," which may just as well be competed for by a plant physiologist. For 1903 the subject is "A monograph of any genus or group of thallophytes." For detailed information as to the conditions of competition address Glover M. Allen, Secretary, Boston Society of Natural History, Boston, Mass.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE of the 11th Congress of Naturalists and Physicians has asked that the following announcement be made: The Congress will convene at St. Petersburg on January 2, 1902, and continue until January 12. General sessions will be held January 2, 8, and 12; and sectional meetings on the other days, botany constituting a distinct section. Those wishing to be present as members should send their names and addresses, with the membership fee (3 roubles), also indicating their section, to the Executive Committee of the Congress, University, St. Petersburg, not later than December 15.